09/446232 # Find 514 Rec'd PC 10 1 6 DEC 1999 6-23-20

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Washington, D.C., United States of America

In re Application

of:

BIGGS et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned

Filed: Herewith

Group Art Unit:

For: SMOKING ARTICLE AND SMOKING

ARTICLE MATERIAL THEREFOR

Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT 'A'

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box PCT

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to prosecution on the merits, please enter the following preliminary amendment for the enclosed application:

In the claims:

In claim 3, line 1, please delete --or 2-- after the number "1".

In claim 6, line 1, please delete --to 5-- after the number "1".

In claim 9, line 1 and 2, please delete -- any one of the preceding claims -- and insert in place thereof "claim 1".

In claim 12, line 1 and 2, please delete -- any one of the preceding claims-- and insert in place thereof "claim 1".

In claim 14, line 1 and 2, please delete -- any one of the preceding claims -- and insert in place thereof "claim 1".